

Appl. No.: 10/021,726  
Amendment Dated November 7, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of August 10, 2005

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

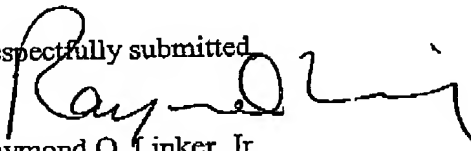
The allowance of claims 1 to 33 is acknowledged with appreciation.

Claims 34 -- 38 stand rejected. In order to place this application in condition for immediate allowance, claims 34 -- 38 have been canceled.

Favorable reconsideration by the Examiner and formal issuance of a notice of allowance are solicited.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted

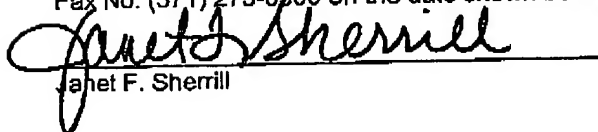


Raymond O. Linker, Jr.  
Registration No. 26,419

Customer No. 00826  
ALSTON & BIRD LLP  
Bank of America Plaza  
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000  
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000  
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000  
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (571) 273-8200 on the date shown below.



Janet F. Sherrill

November 7, 2005  
Date